

CLAIMS

1. A method for detection of metastatic cancer cells originating from gastric cancer, comprising the steps of:

collecting a biological sample from a subject;

5 detecting the presence of at least either aldehyde dehydrogenase or dopa decarboxylase in the biological sample of the subject; and

determining that the possibility of containing metastatic cancer cells originating from the gastric cancer in the sample is high when at least either aldehyde dehydrogenase or dopa decarboxylase is present.

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2. A method for detection of metastatic cancer cells according to claim 1, wherein the presence of aldehyde dehydrogenase or dopa decarboxylase is confirmed by the presence of mRNA of aldehyde dehydrogenase or dopa decarboxylase.

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3. A method for detection of metastatic cancer cells according to claim 1, wherein the presence of aldehyde dehydrogenase or dopa decarboxylase is detected by an antibody.

20 4. A kit for diagnosis of metastatic cancer cells originating from gastric cancer, comprising a pair of primers or a probe to detect the presence of mRNA of aldehyde dehydrogenase or dopa decarboxylase.

25 5. A kit for diagnosis of metastatic cancer cells originating from gastric cancer, comprising an antibody to detect aldehyde dehydrogenase or dopa decarboxylase.